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6 November 1952

Memorandum for: The Director

Subject: Congressional Committee Assignments
of Interest to CIA.

1. CIA substantive legislation will continue to be considered by the Armed Services Committees in both houses. Senator Styles Bridges is the ranking Republican on the Senate Armed Services Committee, but as he will doubtless assume the chairmanship of the Appropriations Committee, the chairmanship of Armed Services will fall to Senator Saltonstall, of Massachusetts, with Senator Russell, of Georgia, as the ranking Minority Member. The other Republican members are Senators Morse, Knowland and Flanders, but whether the Republicans will continue Senator Morse as one of their Committee members may be doubtful in view of his activities during and after the campaign. Under the Senatorial split, the Republicans will be allowed to add one more member to this Committee, and must also replace Senator Cain on the Committee, as the latter has been defeated. The Democratic membership will be reduced from 7 to 6 by the change in party control, which means that probably Senator Long will be dropped.

2. Senator Bridges will become the Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee with the following Republican members who are already on the Committee: Senators Ferguson, Cordon, Saltonstall, Young, Knowland, Thyne and McCarthy. They will also add the necessary members to give the Republicans majority control of the Committee.

3. With the primary defeat of Senator McKellar, Senator Carl Hayden, of Arizona, a good friend of CIA, will be the ranking minority member of the Appropriations Committee, followed by Senators Russell and McCarran. The defeat of Senator O'Mahoney has, of course, removed a good CIA friend from this Committee. At the present time it

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4. The House Armed Services Committee will be chaired by Congressman Dewey Short, of Missouri, who has always been friendly to CIA. The next ranking members of the Committee are Congressmen Leslie C. Arens, of Illinois, W. Sterling Cole, of New York, and Paul W. Shafer, of Michigan. As Congressman Arens presumably will resume his role of assistant Majority Leader, he will probably not be very active on the Committee. Congressman Cole will become, in all probability, the Vice Chairman of the Joint Congressional Committee on Atomic Energy. This may place CIA legislation in the hands of Congressman Shafer, who handled it in the 80th Congress. Mr. Shafer does not have a very deep understanding of CIA problems and has not been briefed on our activities in general. It would appear advisable to attempt to place CIA legislation in the hands of Congressman Short initially in the hopes that it will be handled with the same expedition and discretion with which it was handled by Congressman Vinson. The latter will continue as the ranking minority member of the Committee.

5. Congressman John Taber, of New York, will become Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, with Congressman Wigglesworth, of Massachusetts, as the number two man. The latter may also chair the subcommittee handling the military budget and CIA funds. Clarence Cannon, the present Committee Chairman, will become the ranking minority member, and Congressman Mahon has also been re-elected.

6. In all probability Senator Hickenlooper, of Iowa, will become Chairman of the Joint Congressional Committee on Atomic Energy, with Congressman Cole, of New York, as Vice Chairman. Senator Russell, of Georgia, and Congressman Durham, of North Carolina, will be the ranking minority members.

7. Senator Wiley, of Wisconsin, will become Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, and Congressman Chipfield, of Illinois, will become Chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

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